

Why Join a Radio Club?

Why join a radio club? That is a very good question. I became an ham radio operator because I was interested in emergency communications, assisting my community, and because being a ham radio operator was on my "list of things to do before I die". Also, a good friend of mine, Richard KR4OS, encouraged me to become an operator. I took a class sponsored by my church, received my license and attended my first meeting of the Athens Radio Club. I joined the club because I wanted to improve my operating skills, meet individuals with similar interests, and to fulfill the reasons I became an operator. My skills have improved, I've become involved with my community, and I'm having fun. There is so much more about the hobby I want to learn, packet for example. There are members of the club who can assist me in this. I'm very interested in ARES. Again, there are individuals who can help me. I joined the club to receive assistance, fellowship, and experience. I also joined the club to serve my community. After 3 years of club membership I have had many opportunities to serve others and to become a better operator. I appreciate all of those members of the club who have helped me; I hope I have helped others as well.

James Reeves, KF4AQO

Well, here are some reasons I joined the ARC. I had heard many good things about the club from various members. It has an active club participation from its members. The ARC is active in the community with participation in public service events. I like that, because where I live we just don't have that outlet in the community. The people that I know in the club are extremely friendly. Although I am close to 50 miles away, I am more than willing to make the drive in order to be an active and contributing member of the club. Generically speaking, I joined a club so that I may support the hobby that I so much enjoy. Being part of a club, we are able to have one common voice when it comes to representing our common interests before government agencies which are vying to take away our frequencies and sell them off to the highest bidder.

We also enjoy a level of comradeship between other hams that I like to compare to the comradeship enjoyed by Harley Davidson motorcycle riders. If a stranger has to ask why we enjoy ham radio so much, then they just won't understand if we try to explain.

In short, it all boils down to two reasons why I joined a club, the Athens Radio Club..... 1) for the friendships and comradeship of fellow hams.... and 2) the exceptional dedication to public service that I have seen demonstrated by the club members.

Matt Temples, KE4WTZ

I had been a ham for a little over two years when I was transferred to Athens by the DuPont Company. I had been a member of the radio club in Wilmington N.C. which was responsible for my becoming a ham in the first place. It was a very good experience.. being new in town I knew that joining the local club would make it possible for me to learn the area and also make friends in the ham ranks in Athens. It seems like it took me a while to find out there was a club in Athens and a little while longer to find out where and when they met. At the first meeting I attended I must say I felt out of place. I hung in there and after about two more meetings got to know some of the hams. The one club activity I did like was the work in public service that the club performed. One of the best was the work at the University of Georgia home football games although I can't remember if that happened right away or not. In any case I got involved in it and have looked forward to that function ever since.... I did not go to college so I adopted the University of Georgia football team and have been a rabid fan ever since.

I have enjoyed my tenure in the Athens Radio Club. So why did I join the Athens Radio Club? I joined in order to make new friends in my chosen hobby and to be able to perform some organized public service, the same reason I joined the Georgia Single Side Band net. I have achieved both goals I think. I have some good friends within the Athens Radio Club and also outside of the club.

Ed Riddle, N4ALE

We have all taken the trouble to pass tests to earn our tickets, we've all invested money, sometimes lots of money in gear, so we most likely see ham radio as important to us, either as a hobby or as an opportunity for public service or both. Being in a radio club means associating with and establishing friendships with others who share our interests. It's an opportunity to do a lot more in ham radio than we could do by ourselves, by join our interests and effort with others. I know from 23 years of personal experience that I've been much more active and have had more fun as a ham during periods when I've been been in a club than during times when I've not been a club member.

Ken Schroder, N4NFI

After reading the comments by James, Matt, Ed and Ken I have been reminded of the common goals that brought us all to the Athens Radio Club. The desire to serve the community and comradeship are universal threads. I can't add much to what has already been said. I look at the radio club much the same way I look at the jobs I've held over the years. When I look back over those jobs the first thing I think about are the friends I made. Ham radio doesn't have a monopoly on good people but since joining the radio club I have met some of the friendliest and most generous people you could ever hope to meet. It has been fun pursuing the hobby I enjoy with such a great group of hams.

Don Bullard, WA4IML

VE-TEST SESSION

Monday December 7th

7:00PM at the Club Shack

Bring ID, Original License & Copy, and

\$6.35 correct change.

The Emitter

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Athens Radio Club—Athens, GA
<http://www.qsl.net/wa4bkf>

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Club Repeater

WA4BKF 146.745/-

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Executive Committee

Term Expires 1998

Don Bullard, WA4IML
Usher Thomason, KN4WK

Term Expires 1999

Ed Riddle, N4ALE
Tommy Strickland, KD4DTV

Term Expires 2000

Bob Herrin, KE4JLL
James Reeves, KF4AQO

Submissions of articles, stories and artwork is encouraged and appreciated. Material should relate to amateur radio or similar subject (computers, electronics, SWL, etc.) and be in good taste.

New Emitter Editor

Matt Temples, KE4WTZ, has volunteered to take over as the Athens Radio Club's Emitter Editor beginning with the January issue. Matt is a new club member with lots of enthusiasm and experience. KE4WTZ helps out each week at the UGA football games. He enjoys getting involved in club activities.

Give him lots of encouragement by sending in your articles. The best reading in the Emitter are those pieces written by club members. Contact Matt by e-mail at:

Matt.Temples@dot.state.ga.us
Or U.S. Mail at:
Matthew Temples KE4WTZ
965 Bio Lane
Hartwell, GA 30643

December Contests

ARRL 160-Meter Contest
2200Z Dec 4 – 1600Z Dec 6

ARRL 10-Meter Contest
0000Z Dec 12 – 2400Z Dec 13
Check QST for details...

Club T-Shirts Are Here!

Our club T-shirts have arrived. James, KF4AQO, will be distributing the shirts at the club shack the morning of the fox hunt (December 5th). Because of family commitments he will not participate in the hunt, so come early to pick up your shirt. If you can't drop by to pick up your shirt, you can contact James to pick it up or you can wait until the January meeting.

Bits-N-Pieces

Athens-Clarke County is apparently testing its 800 MHz trunking system. There has been some traffic over the past three or four days, and the data channel is moving each night at midnight. In the past it has remained on the same frequency. (KE4JLL)

How Many of These Christmas Season Special Event Stations Can You Work?

Bethlehem, GA: Lanierland Amateur Radio Club, K4C, 1500Z Dec 12 to 2400Z Dec 26, "A King for Christmas," Merry Christmas from Bethlehem, GA. 7.270 14.270 21.370 28.370. Certificate. Kenneth D. Parrish, Jr, KN4UO, 23 Woodland Rd, Auburn, GA 30011.

Bethlehem, CT: Hen House Gang Amateur Radio Club, W1FHP, 0001Z Dec 1 to 2400Z Dec 31, Christmas special event from Bethlehem, 7.045 7.280 14.325 21.030. QSL. Robert O'Neil, 283 Hard Hill Rd N, Bethlehem, CT 06751.

Bethlehem, IN: Clark County ARC, W9WWI, 1500Z Dec 11 to 2200Z Dec 12, Celebrating the Christmas Season, 3.900 7.050 7.200. Certificate. CCARC, W9WWI, 1805 E 8th St, Jefferson, IN 47130.

Tempe, AZ: Tri-City Amateur Radio Club, NØEL, 1600 to 2359Z Dec 12, Celebrating the Christmas Season, 40-10 meters. QSL. NØEL, 1905 N Pennington Dr, Chandler, AZ 85224-2632

Christmas, FL: Coronado Wireless Association, KE4AG, 1400Z Dec 12 to 2100Z Dec 13, 17th annual Ft Christmas special event, 7.250 14.250 21.325 28.325. QSL. Don Benham, KE4AG, 312 S Ridgewood Ave, Edgewater, FL 32032.

Bethlehem/Nazareth, PA: Christmas City ARC/ Delaware-Lehigh ARC, WX3MAS, 1300Z Dec 12 to 0100Z Dec 14, Annual Christmas City special event. 3.970 7.270 14.265 21.365. Certificate. CCARC/DLARC WX3MAS, RR 4, Greystone Bldg, Nazareth, PA 18064-9211.

Lexington, SC: Number One Christmas Carol, N1CC, 0000Z Dec 24 to 2359Z Dec 25, 19th Annual Christmas Eve and Day event, 14.295 21.400 28.475. QSL. Jim La Porta, 112 Woodruff Court, Lexington, SC 29072.

**At each University of Georgia home game
Hams assist the Red Cross by providing
communications to aid stations located
throughout Sanford Stadium**



Linda, KE4TYO & Lillie, WB4BUK,
Net Control, catch the replay.
A layout of Sanford Stadium (to Lillie's
left) helps pinpoint calls for assistance.



Bob, KE4JLL(R) chats with a Red Cross
Worker

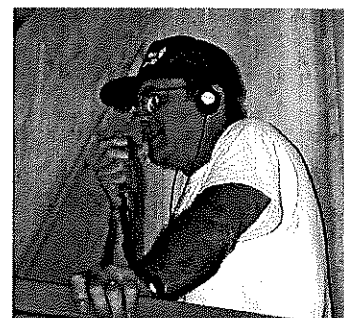


Ed, N4ALE

**The Georgia – Tennessee Game
October 10, 1998**



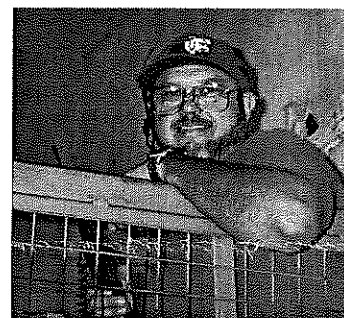
17 Minutes to go! Sanford Stadium is packed!



Phil, KE4TYV



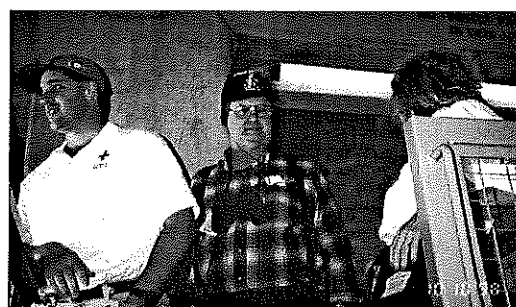
Geoff, KA4UGA



George, WB4VNT



Larry, N4IWP (R) with Red Cross Worker



Jerry, WB4BSG (C) with Red Cross Workers

I know there were others working the game but not pictured here. I apologize for the omission...WA4IML

Inside the December Emitter



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Athens Radio Club
P.O. Box 29
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Open Immediately...Important Material Enclosed!